## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.,	
Plaintiffs,	) Civil Action No. 21-cv-00410-LKG
v.	) Dated: July 5, 2022
PETER FRANCHOT,	)
Defendant.	)
	)

## **ORDER**

The Court has scheduled oral arguments on the issue of whether the pass-through prohibition contained in Maryland's Digital Advertising Gross Revenues Tax Act (the "DATA") violates the First Amendment, to be held on **Tuesday**, **July 12**, **2022**, **at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. The parties shall adhere to the following time allocations for the oral argument:

- 1. Opening arguments, 25 minutes each;
- 2. Responses, 15 minutes each; and
- 3. Rebuttal, if any, 10 minutes each.

In addition, the parties shall be prepared to address the following issues during the hearing:

- 1. Whether the DATA's pass-through prohibition restricts speech, because it prohibits a taxpayer from directly passing on the tax.
- 2. Whether the DATA's pass-through prohibition restricts speech, because it prohibits passing through the tax "by means of a separate fee, surcharge, or line-item."

- 3. Whether plaintiffs have satisfied the pre-requisite for bringing a facial First Amendment challenge to the DATA's pass-through prohibition under *Greater Balt*. *Center for Pregnancy Concerns, Inc. v. Mayor and City Council Balt.*, 721 F.3d 264, 282 (4th Cir. 2013).
- 4. Should the Court conclude that the pass-through prohibition restricts commercial speech, whether the DATA's pass-through prohibition satisfies intermediate scrutiny.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/ Lydia Kay Griggsby LYDIA KAY GRIGGSBY United States District Judge